

[REDACTED]  
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25X1D

12 January 1968

## MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Critique for OXCART Mission Number BX6842

1. Mission critique was conducted in the OSA Control Center at 1300 hours, 9 January 1968.

## 2. Mission Data:

- a. Mission Number: BX6842  
b. Date Flown: 4 January 1968  
c. Area of Operation: North Vietnam  
d. Mission Success: Successful  
e. Pilot's Name: [REDACTED]  
f. Aircraft Number: 127  
g. Primary or Spare Flown: Primary  
h. Takeoff Time - Planned: 0110Z  
                                Actual: 0113Z  
i. Landing Time - Planned: 0510Z  
                                Actual: 0510Z  
j. Time Enroute - Planned: 4+00  
                                Actual: 3+57  
k. Departure Base: Kadena AB  
l. Landing Base: Kadena AB  
m. Equipment:

[REDACTED]

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(2) Spare: Same as primary.

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GROUP 1  
Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and  
declassification

[REDACTED]

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3. Operations:

a. Route (INS Plot vs. Planned): Satisfactory.

- (1) INS Terminal Error: 4.3 NM
- (2) INS Spec Error: 10.0 NM

b. Mission Generation & Operational Support: Satisfactory.

4. Weather:

a. Forecast vs. Actual:

- (1) As briefed.

(2) Comments: The target area was cloud free. Total cloud cover from camera "on" to camera "off" was 30 percent.

b. Weather Scout Reporting: Satisfactory.

5. Intelligence:

a. Target Coverage:

- (1) 25 of 25 programmed targets covered.
- (2) 8 first priority SSM targets of 9 covered.
- (3) 18 of 27 first priority NVN COMOR targets covered.
- (4) 139 SAM sites, 12 sites occupied, 0 new sites
- (5) 14 other priority NVN COMOR targets covered.
- (6) Comments: Excellent coverage with zero percentage of clouds was obtained of the high interest area of North Vietnam. This included the SSM search area, SAM sites, airfields and transportation network.

b. Quality of Take: Satisfactory.

- (1) Resolution: Good.
- (2) Camera Operation: Satisfactory exposure and contrast good.

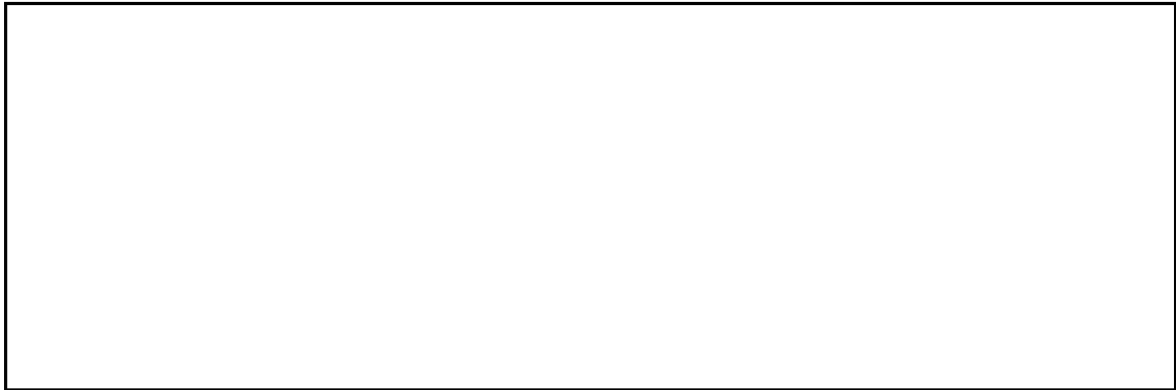
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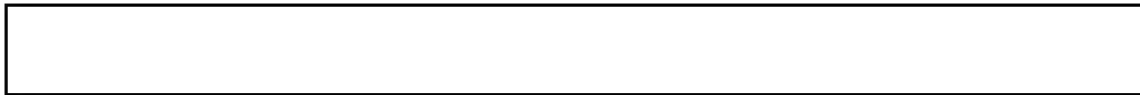
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f. Take Movement:

(1) Photography: Satisfactory.



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6. Materiel:

a. Aircraft General: Satisfactory.

(1) Comments: Tankers at A/R #1 and #2 used manual boom latching. Article system checked OK in auto and manual. Tanker system malfunction suspected.

(2) Aircraft Systems: Satisfactory.

7. Communications:

a. Message Traffic: Satisfactory.

b. 

c. UHF/HF Commo: Satisfactory.

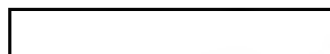
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8. Significant Actions:

In Black Book and on briefing aids, altitude shown over denied will be planned altitude at Mach 3.2.



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9. Outstanding Actions Required:

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a. Verify [ ] report that a missile was observed in flight on mission photography (Intelligence Division).

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b. Forward information to SAC [ ]

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c. Investigate manual boom latching by both tankers at AR #1 and A/R #2 (Deputy for Materiel).

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[ ]  
for WILLIAM E. SHELTON  
Colonel, USAF  
Deputy for Operations, OSA

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OXC/O/OSA [ ] pm

Distribution:

- #1 - D/SA
- #2 - D/O/OSA
- #3 - D/M/OSA
- #4 - D/R&D/OSA
- #5 - OXC/O/OSA
- #6 - Intel/O/OSA
- #7 - Wea/O/OSA
- #8 - Commo/O/OSA
- #9 - ADP/O/OSA
- #10 - RB/OSA
- #11 - Chrono

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4 January 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Science and Technology

DXCART mission BX6842 was flown on 4 January 1968 against targets of interest in North Vietnam. This was the twenty-third mission to date.

Aircraft departed Kadena AB at 0113Z and accomplished one pass over North Vietnam. This mission was scheduled to arrive in the Hanoi area coincident with strike forces. Mission duration was three hours and fifty-seven minutes. Recovery at Kadena AB was normal.

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